the group consisting of NDDTDSASTD (SEQ ID No:1) and YKNDDTDSTSTDDMW (SEQ ID No:2) and PNKDNDGGA (SEQ ID No:3).

24. The peptide of claim 23 produced recombinantly.

25.-39. (canceled)

40. (Original) An antibody which specifically binds to an epitope of a gene product of PP2C including polymorphisms thereof which distinguishes the gene product of gene product of PP2C from gene product of PP2C .

41. (Original) An antibody of claim 40 conjugated to a detectable moiety.

42. (Original) An antibody of claim 40 selected from the group consisting of monoclonal and polyclonal antibody.

43. (Original) An polyclonal antibody of claim 40 raised against recombinantly produced PP2C .

44. (Original) An polyclonal antibody of claim 40 raised against the carboxy terminal peptide PNKDNDGGA (SEQ ID No:3).

REMARKS

The subject application is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/029,479, filed October 21, 1998, which is a §371 National Stage of PCT/IB96/01021, filed August 30, 1996, claiming priority of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/003,114, filed September 1, 1995.

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 1. Support for the preceding amendment can be found *inter alia* throughout the specification as filed, specifically on page 9, lines 24-34. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 16-24, and 40-44 are now pending and presented for examination in the subject divisional application.

Applicants maintain that this Second Preliminary Amendment does not introduce new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant would also like to direct the Examiner's attention to the following references which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (**Exhibit A**) and which were previously cited in connection with the prosecution of U.S. Serial Number 09/029,479 from which the subject application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120. According to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of patents or publications that were previously cited by, or submitted to, the Patent Office in connection with such a prior application need not accompany the Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, copies of the following references are not attached to this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. U.S. Patent No. 4,666,828, issued to Gusella on May 19, 1987;
2. U.S. Patent No. 4,683,202, issued to Mullis on July 28, 1987;
3. U.S. Patent No. 4,736,866, issued to Leder et al. on April 12, 1988;
4. U.S. Patent No. 4,801,531, issued to Frossard on January 31, 1989;
5. U.S. Patent No. 5,175,383, issued to Leder et al. on December 29, 1992;
6. U.S. Patent No. 5,175,384, issued to Krimpenfort et al. on December 29, 1992;

7. U.S. Patent No. 5,175,385, issued to Wagner et al. on December 29, 1992;

8. U.S. Patent No. 5,192,659, issued to Simons on March 9, 1993;

9. U.S. Patent No. 5,221,778, issued to Byrne et al. on June 22, 1993;

10. U.S. Patent No. 5,272,057, issued to Smulson et al. on December 21, 1993;

11. U.S. Patent No. 5,288,846, issued to Quertermous et al. on February 22, 1994;

12. U.S. Patent No. 5,298,422, issued to Schwartz et al. on March 29, 1994;

13. U.S. Patent No. 5,347,075, issued to Sorge on September 13, 1994;

14. U.S. Patent No. 5,360,735, issued to Weinshank et al. on November 1, 1994;

15. U.S. Patent No. 5,387,742, issued to Cordell on February 5, 1995;

16. PCT International Publication No. WO 93/14200, published July 22, 1993;

17. PCT International Publication No. WO 94/06908, published March 31, 1994;

18. PCT International Publication No. WO 94/23049, published October 13, 1994;

19. PCT International Publication No. WO 94/28123, published December 8, 1994;

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If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the telephone number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Second Preliminary Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. White
Registration No. 28,678
Attorney for Applicant
Cooper & Dunham LLP
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
(212) 278-0400

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John P. White
Reg. No. 28,678

Date